



Louisiana SB/SCAP Newsletter



# small business / small community **ASSISTANCE** P R O G R A M

First Quarter 2009 Volume 17, Number 1

## ABOUT SB/SCAP

The primary mission of the DEQ's Small Business & Small Community Assistance Program is to provide important environmental regulatory assistance to small businesses and to provide environmental regulatory information to small communities.

The SB/SCAP technical advisors listed below are experienced, highly knowledgeable, and committed to enhancing the relationships between DEQ and small businesses & communities.

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## Air emissions addressed in Act 547



In the 2008 Regular Session, Governor Jindal signed Senate Bill No. 384 as Act 547. The act, which became effective on August 15, 2008, further defines the potential air emissions from Act 918. It includes a statutory exemption from air permitting requirements for facilities that emit less than five tons/year for any single regulated air pollutant, less than 15 tons/year of combined regulated pollutants, and less than the minimum emission rate for each toxic pollutant established pursuant to R.S. 30:2060. The exception is if the facility is already required to obtain a permit by the Clean Air Act, Subchapter V, 42 U.S.C. 7661.

The new act defined that "potential emissions" shall mean the emissions the facility is capable of emitting considering all control measures in place, utilized and

properly maintained and historical practices, including hours of operation and number of employees at the facility. Currently, LDEQ is in process of revising the Environmental Regulatory Code to require facilities which have determined they qualify under Act 547 to document and maintain records demonstrating the potential or actual emissions of the facility. Once the company determines the facility is exempt under Act 547, they do not have to notify the department.

SB/SCAP representatives are available to assist small businesses with calculating the air pollutant emissions from the facility. Please contact the regional SB/SCAP representative or the SB/SCAP hotline 1-800-259-2890 if you need any assistance concerning Exemption per Act 547. To see the Act, go to:

<http://legis.state.la.us/billdata/streamdocument.asp?did=503705>

## Louisiana steps up support for small businesses

Governor Jindal and the Louisiana state legislature have stepped up support for Louisiana's 364,900 small businesses with the recent passage and signing of Act No. 820 (House Bill 368), the *Small Business Regulatory Flexibility Act*. <http://legis.state.la.us/billdata/streamdocument.asp?did=504515>

The new law requires state agencies to analyze the economic impact of proposed rules on small business and to consider less burdensome alternatives that still accomplish the regulatory goal. It also

requires state agencies to notify small businesses of the costs associated with the proposed new rules.

"Our goal is to have state agencies really consider the impact of regulations on small businesses and to seek alternative ways for small businesses to comply with the regulatory objectives in a cost effective manner," said Representative Rickey Nowlin (Natchitoches), the bill's primary author.



## **How important are small businesses to the U.S. ?**

### **Small firms:**

- Represent 99.7 percent of all employer firms.
- Employ about half of all private sector employees.
- Pay nearly 45 percent of total U. S. private payroll.
- Have generated 60 to 80 percent of net new jobs annually over the last decade.
- Create more than half of nonfarm private gross domestic product (GDP).
- Hire 40 percent of high tech workers (such as scientists, engineers, and computer workers).
- Are 52 percent home-based and 2 percent franchises.

- Made up 97.3 percent of all identified exporters and produced 28.9 percent of the known export value in FY 2006.
- Produce 13 times more patents per employee than large patenting firms; these patents are twice as likely as large firm patents to be among the one percent most cited.

Source: U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of the Census and International Trade Administration; Advocacy-funded research by Kathryn Kobe, 2007 and CHI Research, 2003; Federal Procurement Data System; U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

## **Note**

Consistent with Governor Jindal's green government policy of conserving resources and energy, this is the last issue of the print version of this newsletter that will be distributed. Future distributions will be made electronically and as always the newsletter will be published on DEQ's web site at: <http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/tabid/173/Default.aspx>. If you would like to subscribe to this free service, please email your request to: [sbap@la.gov](mailto:sbap@la.gov).



### **Sanitary Wastewater Permit Application Assistance Workshop**

*Need help with filling out applications?*

**February 17, 2009**—two sessions  
3:00 pm and 6:00 pm

**February 26, 2009**—two sessions  
3:00 pm and 6:00 pm

**St. Tammany Council Chambers**  
**21490 Koop Drive, Mandeville, LA 70471**

\*Call Small Business/Small Community Assistance  
Hotline for any questions: **1-800-259-2890**

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:: assisting small businesses/small communities to comply with and understand environmental regulations::

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